GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:379
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2001
PATENTS FOR INDIAN TEXTILE GOODS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the need to file application for patenting important Indian traditional textile goods like Kanjeevaram Silk sarees and other handloom items;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has also been conducted on other textile products;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Government will file such applications for patenting?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA)

(a) & (b) The Government have examined the need for protection of Indian traditional textile based items in the realm of handloom and handicraft as intellectual property. It has been advised that since the methods of manufacture of these goods have been known for decades and are part of the prior art, they may not qualify as appropriate subject matter of patent monopoly. It may, however, be possible to protect these goods under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

(c) & (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.